

## PCT

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, Item 5 below.	
ADit (PCT)		
International application No.	International filing date (day/month/year)	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year)
PCT/GB 03/04668	30/10/2003	30/10/2002
Applicant		
SEEMAN, Robert		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 6 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

## 1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☒ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

☒ None of the figures.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

National Application No.

PCT/GB 03/04668

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G06F17/30

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F H04L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, IBM-TDB, WPI Data, INSPEC, COMPENDEX, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	ANONYMOUS: "TLD Sponsorship Agreement: Names Registered to Sponsor" INTERNET CITATION, 'Online! 16 October 2001 (2001-10-16), XP002270786 Retrieved from the Internet: <URL:http://www.icann.org/tlds/agreements/ museum/sponsorship-agmt-att13-16oct01.htm> 'retrieved on 2004-02-18! the whole document	1,5,6, 10,11, 15,16,20
X	US 6 092 100 A (HIMMEL MARIA AZUA ET AL) 18 July 2000 (2000-07-18) abstract; figure 3	1,5,6, 11,15,16
A	US 2002/147790 A1 (SNOW ANDREW J) 10 October 2002 (2002-10-10) abstract; figure 1	6,16

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

### \* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*G\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

19 February 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

05/03/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Authorized officer

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## FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19

According to the PCT an invention in the sense of Article 3(1) PCT must have technical character in the sense of Rule 6.2(a) PCT, and belong to a technical field in the sense of Rule 33.2(a) PCT (or a field of technology in the sense of article 27(1) TRIPS). Note also that Rule 13.2 PCT, relating to unity of invention, provides that the international application claims as many different inventions as there are different and non-corresponding "special technical features", and that therefore, features which are non-technical, albeit special, cannot contribute to an invention. Moreover, for the evaluation of inventive activity only those features which are not trivial and contribute to the technical character are taken into consideration. Moreover claims must satisfy Article 6 PCT in that they must be fully supported by the description.

The additional features of claims 2, 3, 9 over the subject-matter of independent claim 1, that

- only one letter has been omitted in the TLD of the URL (claim 2)
- the TDL of the URL is ".cm", ".om", ".co", ".ne", "et" (claim 3)
- the URL comprises a generic term (claim 9)

are clearly only limiting the parameter (the URL) that is input into the method of independent claim 1, and hence not the method of independent claim 1 itself. It follows that these features do not contribute to the technical character of the invention.

The additional feature of claim 4, over the subject-matter of independent claim 1, that the web site is related to the meaning of the URL, is defined broadly in terms of a result to be achieved. Additionally the description does not provide any technically enabling features to solve this problem, it follows that the subject-matter of claim 4 does not meet the requirements of Art. 6 PCT because it is not supported by the description.

The additional features of claims 7 and 8 over the subject-matter of independent claim 1 are directed at business methods which according to Rule 67(iii) PCT do not have technical character as such. The remaining technical feature of the two claims is

- to maintain a database record.

However this feature is clearly trivial.

It follows that no meaningful search can be carried out for claims 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9.

The argumentation for the claims 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, and 19 corresponds to the arguments given above for the claims 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9 the technical features of the two groups of claims being identical.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant

**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210**

is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/GB 03/04668

## Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:  
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

## Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

### Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 03/04668

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6092100	A	18-07-2000	NONE	
US 2002147790	A1	10-10-2002	NONE	